(*a*) The Government should, in consideration of the importance of the town and also in consideration of the many things for which the people of the town were not directly responsible, substantially increase the annual grant to the Committee.

(*b*) The Committee should be allowed greater freedom in the matter of levying taxes and also new powers of taxation and levying of fees.

(*c*) The vaccination charges should be entirely remitted. He said that it was not reasonable that the people of the town alone should pay for the lymph while those outside the town were granted the same free.

(*d*) The revenue received from stamps on petitions presented to the officers of the Committee should be credited to the Town Fund. The Committee had to take action on the petitions and in some cases to spend money in that direction while the receipts from stamps were credited to the general revenues. The Member argued that the case of State departments stood on a different footing as their expenditure was met from the general revenues.

(*e*) Till the tax proposed on vehicles and animals was sanctioned by the Government, the amount now realised by the Police Department from the owners of hackney carriages should be credited to the Town Fund.

*Dewan.*—Have you any idea as to the amount now collected by the Police under this head?

*Member.*—Roughly, it will be about three or four thousand rupees per annum.

The Member, in conclusion, requested that his representations might receive favourable consideration and that the question of the imposition of the tax on vehicles and animals, now before the Government, might be favourably disposed of.

*Dewan's reply.*—Noted. The Government have sanctioned the imposition of the tax on animals and vehicles.

**98. Need for Government help to meet some requirements of the town of Shencottah.**

*Mr. B. Aunda Pillai* (Member, T. I. C., Shencottah) said that the survey of the taluk, and particularly of the town of Shencottah, was conducted in a most irregular fashion. The minor circuits and sub-divisions, in many cases, did not agree with the situation of the lands to which they referred. There were instances of one item of land having been numbered as house site in one pattah and as garden land in another. Similarly, the same number was included in more than one house-site. The actual measurements of land differed from the accounts in some cases. There were also several house sites which were entered in the registers and pattas granted in respect of them but those sites were omitted from the survey plan. The Member quoted specific instances for all the above irregularities. He requested that the town should be re-surveyed and, if that could not be done, the porambokes in the town over which the Committee had control should at least be specifically demarcated, so that they might take action in respect of encroachments on them.

He next said that the supply of good drinking water was scarce in the town. There were only four wells. More wells should be sunk to the east of the taluk office and other places. The balance at the disposal of the Committee was only Rs. 1,000 and they were therefore unable to do the work from the Town Fund. He suggested the desirability of introducing water through pipes from the Melur tank. In the meantime, the well in the Cutcherry compound should be made available to the people of the town. A satrom should be constructed for the use of the travelling public and, till that was built, a *vazhiambalam* should at least be provided.

*Dewan's reply.*—Noted. A re-survey of the town at the cost of Government has been ordered so far back as April 1915.

**99. Needs of the town of Kayankulam.**

*Mr. A. Krishna Pillai* (Member, Trading Classes, Kayankulam) said that Kayankulam was more centrally situated for the location of the Munsiff's Court and urged that the court now held in a rented building at Krishnapuram might be transferred to Kayankulam.

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*Dewan.*—This question was brought up last year and the Government decided that the Munsiff's Court at Krishnapuram could not be shifted from there. The Government do not see reasons to re-consider the decision.

The Member next advanced arguments for establishing a sub-treasury at Kayankulam. If, by the establishment of a sub-treasury at Kayankulam, the work in the treasuries of Karunagapalli and Mavelikara would get reduced, he said that a clerk from each of those treasuries could be posted to the proposed treasury at Kayankulam and the cost thereby lessened. He again pressed the question on the attention of the Government.

He then referred to the construction of a well in the town, sanctioned by the Government, and said that the work was not yet taken up.

*Dewan.*—The Dewan Peishkar, Quilon, has been instructed to see that the well is constructed soon.

The Member then said that the delay in the construction of the boat basin and landing ghats, sanctioned for the town, caused great inconvenience to the people.

*Dewan.*—This work ranks as the 15th in the programme of public works for the Quilon Division, and will be taken up in that order.

The Member said that, if funds were not available now, the allotment for the maintenance of the village roads in the taluk might be diverted for the purpose.

Lastly, he urged the necessity for the following public works:—

(1) Metalling of the Alleppey–Quilon road from Karunagapalli to Nangiarkulangara.

(2) Repair of the bridge over the Kayankulam canal or, if it was not now possible, the dismantling of the bridge to avoid danger to the public.

(3) Conversion of the pathway through the eastern bazaar into a cart road and its extension to the canal.

(4) Opening of a new road from the northern extremity of the western bazaar as far as the canal on the eastern side of the landing ghat.

(5) Conversion into a cart road of the lane to the west of the western bazaar.

*Dewan's reply.*—Noted.

**100. Needs of the Town Improvement Committee, Mavelikara.**

*Mr. K. Krishna Panikkan* (Member, T. I. C., Mavelikara) said that the water in the big tank on the northern side of the temple and road was bad and could not be used even for communal purposes. He requested that the tank should be improved.

*Dewan.*—A report has been called for from the Peishkar in respect of this and two other tanks in the town.

The Member said that he was referring particularly to the Valiakulam. The people had now to go to the river at a distance of a mile every day for bathing purposes. There was a canal connecting the tank with the river. If the canal were improved, it was easy to supply good water to the tank from the river.

He also urged the desirability of appointing non-official members as the Presidents of Committees wherever the Government found them fit for holding the office.

*Dewan's reply.*—Noted.

**101. Mercantile interests and the Alleppey Town Improvement Committee.**

*Mr. Kanji Vissenji* (Member, Trading Classes, Alleppey) said that the Town Improvement Committee insisted on separate licenses being taken for all the store-houses in which they stored copra, coir, oil, and other articles, in the course of transmission



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